

## **ASBMB 2009/2010 Science Policy Fellowship Program**

ASBMB is now accepting applications for its Science Policy Fellowship. The fellowship offers recently graduated PhDs an exposure to a range of activities regarding science policy, and congressional and government relations, by working in the Public Affairs office at ASBMB's Bethesda headquarters.

### **General overview and goals of the program**

The primary goal of the fellowship program is to offer young scientists exposure to the interactions between research, society, and policy. Decisions by Congress, regulatory agencies, and local school boards have a profound effect on the conduct of science. Likewise, science provides many benefits to society, including innovation, treatments for public health threats, and jobs conducting research and supporting laboratories. Scientists play a crucial role in educating the public on the benefits of science, while advocating for policies that will facilitate the discoveries of the future.

The fellow will work closely with the ASBMB Director of Public Affairs, Peter Farnham, to participate in a range of activities, including Congressional meetings and hearings, agency briefings, seminars, and advocacy coalition meetings. They will also have the opportunity to participate in activities of the ASBMB Public Affairs Advisory Committee, broadening their exposure to scientists who have participated in these policy discussions. Outside of the general responsibilities discussed below, the fellow will have significant freedom to follow specific topics and issues that are of interest to them.

### **Responsibilities of the Fellow**

The general responsibilities for the fellow are:

- . Participate in PAAC in-person meetings and conference calls
- . Attend in-person ASBMB Council meetings
- . Prepare regular submissions for ASBMB Today
- . Write and distribute a monthly PA E-newsletter
- . Assist in maintaining the Public Affairs website
- . In consultation with Director, respond to members' requests for information or updates regarding science policy issues
- . Assist in arranging Congressional visits for members when requested
- . Participate in regular meetings and conference calls of advocacy coalitions such as FASEB, the Coalition for National Science Funding, and the Coalition for Life Sciences
- . Conduct an independent science policy project, under the guidance of the Director and the PAAC

### **Terms**

The Society will sponsor one Fellow to work in the ASBMB Office of Public Affairs for one year, beginning September 1, 2009. The Fellow will receive a stipend of \$40K, healthcare benefits, and reimbursement of moving expenses up to \$1,500.

### **Qualifications**

The Fellow will be selected on a competitive basis from applicants having:

- a recently awarded doctorate (i.e. applicant is not beyond post-doctoral stage)
- an interest in the relationship between science, technology and public policy

- flexibility in handling a variety of tasks
- excellent interpersonal and communication skills

### **How to Apply**

Individuals interested in applying should submit the following no later than April 30, 2009:

- 1) A resume or CV (no more than 3 pages)
- 2) A letter of intent (no more than 3 pages) outlining:
  - a. Why you are applying for this particular program
  - b. What specific policy issues interest you
  - c. What you hope to accomplish as a Fellow
  - d. How this experience would enhance your career
  - e. Your previous participation in civic activities and/or public affairs
- 3) Two letters of reference should be sent directly to ASBMB at the address below. Please include reference contact information with your application.

**A decision will be made by June 1, 2009.**

Please send all application materials to:

Peter Farnham, CAE, Director of Public Affairs, ASBMB, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814

For questions or additional information, [pfarnham@asbmb.org](mailto:pfarnham@asbmb.org), Tel: 301-634-7384, Fax: 301-634-7126